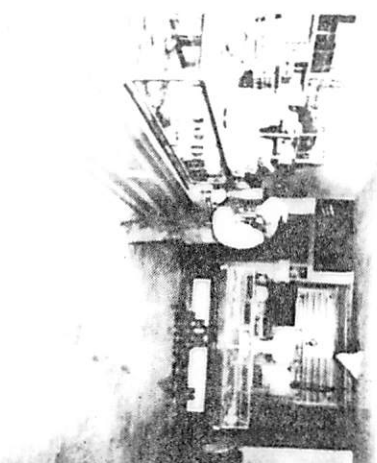


THE VAN WAGONER STORE

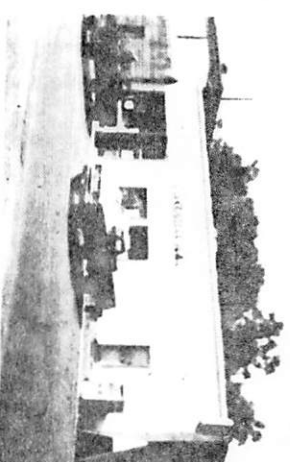
The Van Wagoner store was located where the Coleman Store is today. In the early days the Mercantiles carried no packaged goods, everything came in bulk. If someone wanted a quarter's worth of sugar, it was scooped up and put into one of the customers' own containers. For example, if a customer brought in a bucket of eggs to trade for groceries, the bucket would be emptied and used to carry his purchase home. Because there were no paper bags, other items where wrapped in newspaper. The clerks did all of this for the customer, since the shelves were behind the counters and they were not to help themselves as we do today. Bananas hung from a hook in the ceiling; meat also hung from hooks, but only on certain days of the week because there was no refrigeration. Whatever piece of meat the customer wanted was cut off as he waited.

Some of the specials that were available on December 15, 1899, were:

Men's Overalls - 45c	Peanuts - 10c
Boy's Overalls - 40c	Candy, 3 lb. - 25c
Coal Oil, Per Gal. - 25c	Corn - 10c
Sugar, 4 Lb. - 25c	Tomatoes - 10c



Inside the Van Wagoner's Store



The Coleman's Store



The Hitching Post at Van Wagoner's Store